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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

## INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY China

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SUBJECT Political Information: Sinkiang

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Note: Evidently the ultimate subsource of (1) is the same as that of (2) and (3). Sources apply as stated.)

### 1. Political Groups. (Sources 1 and 3 except as stated)

There are three political groups among Sinkiang's native leaders:

- (a) Pro-Chinese group, which desires autonomy under Chinese sovereignty, led by such men as:  
Aissa  
Yoll-bars  
Maissud
- (b) I-ning (Kulduja) group, which is pro-Soviet. "It desires an autonomous Turkestan Republic federated with the USSR." (source 1) The leaders are:  
Alim-han  
Osman  
Abdul Hayir  
Alinjan (source 1); Alinjan (source 3)  
Ahmed (source 1)
- (c) "Neutrals" (source 3), or "Idealists who favor complete autonomy" (source 1), such as:  
Mohammed Imen  
Saifdin Azazoff  
Alim-Han (?) (source 3)  
Tuire (source 3)

### 2. Religious Opinion (sources 1 and 3)

Maissud favors the separation of government and religion. Mohammed Imen says that they cannot be separated. Aissa is neutral on the question.

### Individuals

### 3. WANG Tseng shan (王曾善) (sources 1 and 2) is a Chinese Mohammedan and

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2

is by profession a mullah (priest). His Mohammedan name is Jala-ladin. He is well educated and can read and write Arabic. He has traveled in Arabia, Turkey and India. In 1938 he was sent to India by the Central Government of China to obtain the good will of Indian Mohammedans. He is now the Commissioner of Civil Affairs in the Sinkiang Provincial Government.

4. Saifedin Azesoff, or Saifdin Azazoff (sources 1 and 2) is a native of Kashgar. During the Uigur independence movement he held an official post in the Uigur government. When this government fell he proceeded to Russia and later to Afghanistan where he remained for twelve years. After the dismissal of SHENG Shih-ts'ai he returned to Ti-hua (Urumchi). He is now Commissioner of Education in the Sinkiang Provincial Government.
5. Mohammed Imen (sources 1 and 2 except as stated) was chief of Ho-tien (Hotan) during the Uigur rebellion in southern Sinkiang, 1933-36. When the Uigur government was overthrown he escaped to Kashmir, where he remained for a time, gaining the sympathy of the Mohammedan Kashmiri. He was arrested as a Communist agitator by the Indian Government and "deported" (source 2; "later he was released and proceeded" - source 1) to Afghanistan, where he remained until 1938. While there he wrote many articles concerning Sinkiang and the Uigurs, which were published in China and Mohammedan countries.
6. When the Sino-Japanese war broke out the Chinese government sent an official, Aissa, a Uigur from Sinkiang, to Mohammedan countries as a good will envoy and propagandist. Aissa met Imen in Afghanistan and upon his return to Chungking in 1940, the Chungking government accepted his recommendation and invited Imen to Chungking. There Imen published a government-subsidized monthly magazine, Tien Shan. In his articles on racial and religious problems of Sinkiang he constantly opposed Chinese influence there. He "demanded that the term 'Sinkiang' be forbidden and the country be called 'Eastern Turkestan.' This question has caused many disputes between the natives and the Central Government" (source 3). When Governor SHENG Shih-ts'ai was dismissed, Imen went to Ti-hua, where he now holds the post of Commissioner of Construction in the Sinkiang Provincial Government.
7. OSMAN is the military chief of the I-ning group, but at heart is anti-Russian. He is a Russian Kazak by birth, but some fifteen years ago he escaped from Soviet territory and hid in the Chinese Altai region among Chinese Kazaks. There he organized his own forces of Chinese Kazaks and carried out a guerilla war against SHENG Shih-ts'ai for over ten years. In the end he managed to drive the Chinese out of the Chinese Altai region altogether. He greatly dislikes both Chinese and Russians. In 1945 the I-ning regime several times sent delegations to him asking him to join them. At last he agreed, and it is said that he has now become Commander-in-Chief of their military forces. (source 1)
8. OSMAN: Chief of the Altai Region; a Russian Kirghiz. From ten to thirteen years ago he escaped from Soviet territory and hid in the Chinese Altai region. He later organized the Chinese Kirghiz to fight against General SHENG Shih-ts'ai. This struggle lasted for ten years. Osman later drove the Chinese troops entirely from the Altai region and gained complete control. In 1945 the I-ning government several times sent delegations to him asking for cooperation. Osman at last agreed to join the movement and was made Commander-in-Chief of one of the armies. He is said to be in I-ning at present. (source 3)
9. Leaders of the I-ning Movement (source 3)

The following persons are known to have been leaders of the I-ning movement:

Alim-han, Uzbek from Tashkent

Ahmed Tijanhazlof, now Vice-Governor of the Sinkiang Provincial Government

Alinjan, I-ning representative at Ti-hua

Abdul Hayir, I-ning representative at Ti-hua

2